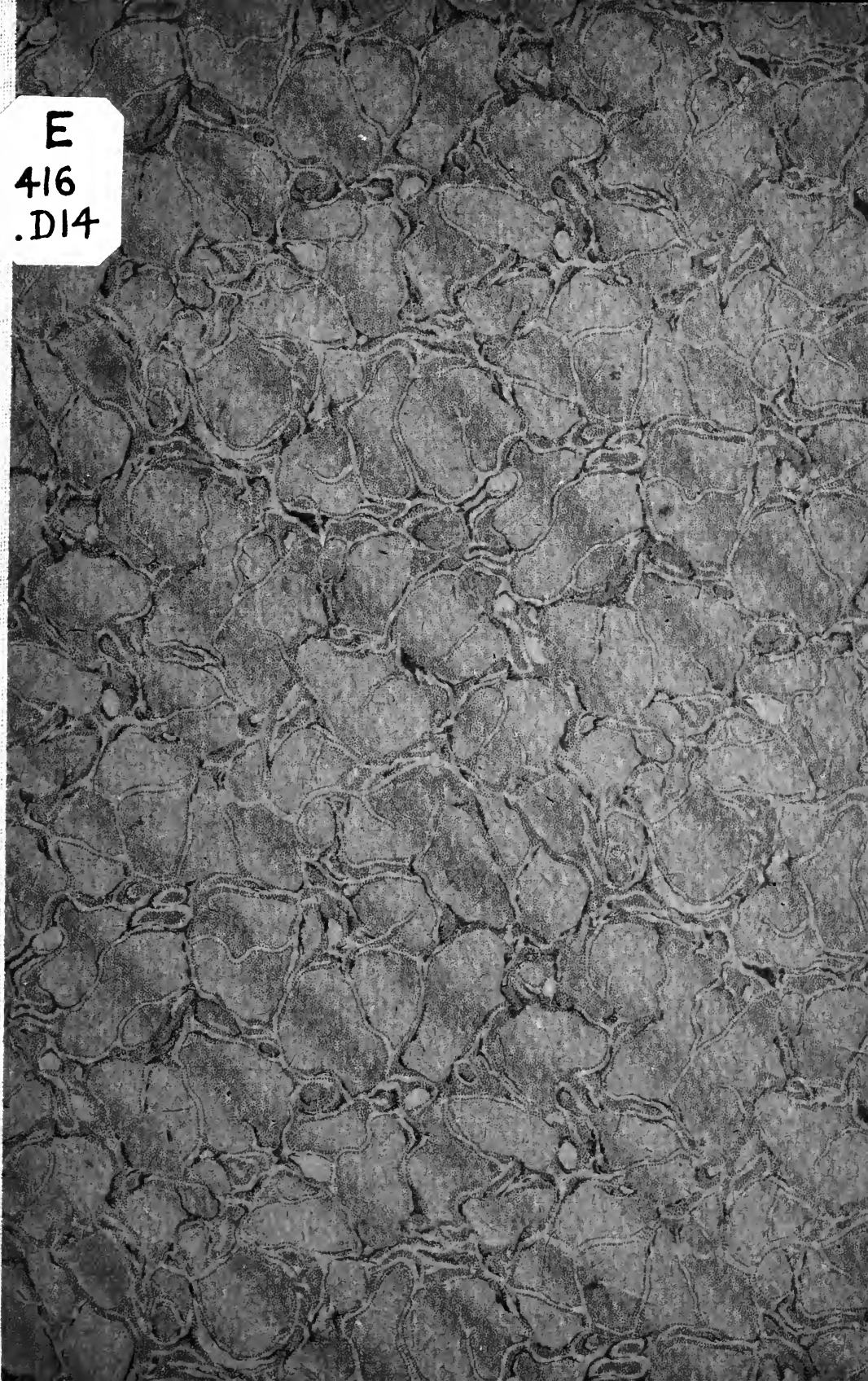
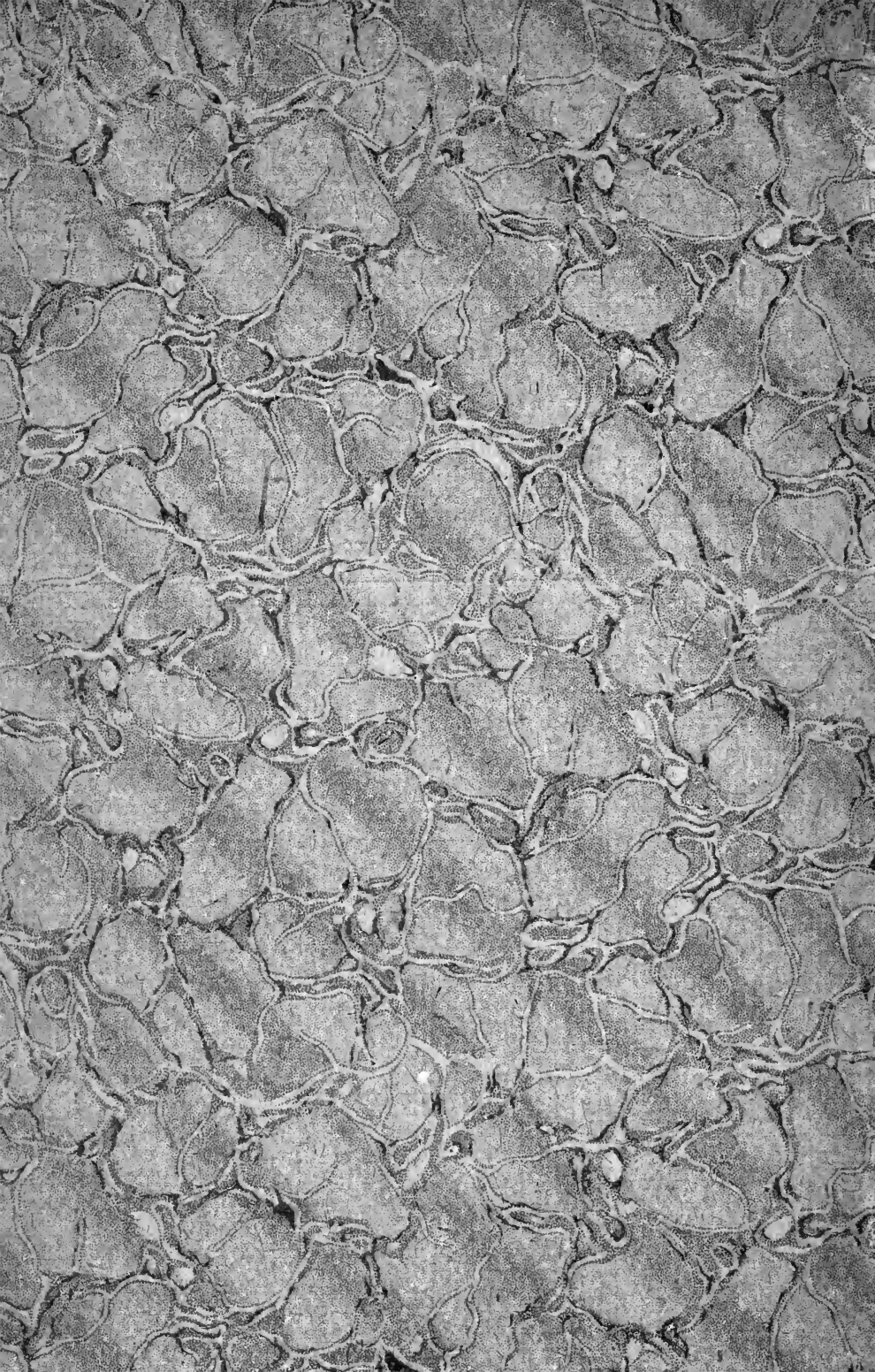


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GREAT SPEECH

OF THE

HON. GEORGE MIFFLIN DALLAS,

UPON THE LEADING TOPICS OF THE DAY,

DELIVERED AT PITTSBURGH, PA.,

WITH

A BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH,

&c., &c.

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PHILADELPHIA:

TIMES AND KEYSTONE JOB OFFICE, NO. 32 SOUTH THIRD STREET.

1847.

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## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

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GEORGE MIFFLIN DALLAS was born in the City of Philadelphia, on the 10th of July, 1792; is now nearly 56 years of age; has never resided out of Philadelphia, except when abroad in a public capacity; married in 1816, and has seven children and three grand-children. His only son is a practitioner at the Bar.

His father, Alexander James Dallas, was the distinguished Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, under President Madison. He derived the name of Mifflin from his godfather, Governor Thomas Mifflin, so conspicuous in the Revolutionary war, and so long pre-eminently popular with the Democracy of Pennsylvania.

He was educated at a school in Germantown kept by Mr. Ely, at another by Mr. Hobson, at another by Mr. Andrews a Greek and Latin scholar, at the Friends' School in Fourth street, at the University of Pennsylvania, and finally, after more than three years of study, he graduated with the highest honors at Princeton College in 1810. He prepared himself for the Bar in the office of his father, the late Alexander James Dallas, and was admitted to its practice in May, 1813, just after entering a volunteer company, and before he left the United States as Private Secretary to Albert Gallatin, on the mission which closed with the treaty of Ghent.

He made his first appearance as an active Democratic politician in the year 1815, siding enthusiastically with the Jefferson and Madison school ardently vindicating the war and its advocates, and unsparingly condemning the Hartford Convention and factious Federalism. He fearlessly encountered, as a prompt speaker and writer, the speeches, letters, and resolutions, which the leading Federalists in almost every county of the State were then pouring out against "*Jim Madison and his War*," and which they continued to pour out, until a rectified and indignant popular opinion silenced them. He was remarkable in his political exertions, for invariably addressing himself to the Democrats of the interior of Pennsylvania, seeming to regard the city as incurably hostile to his principles.

He was the champion of William Findlay, at his election for Governor,

in 1817, and stood by him unflinchingly when assailed by faction in the Legislature ; he volunteered as his counsel before the celebrated Committee of Inquiry, by whose eloquent and unanswerable report, that true and sterling Democrat was triumphantly acquitted. [It will be remembered that our present excellent Chief Magistrate, Francis R. Shunk, married a daughter of Governor Findlay.]

On the failure to re-elect Governor Findlay in 1820, Mr. Dallas instantly resigned the public office he held as Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, and divided his time between his profession and the preparations of the Democracy to regain their ascendancy. At the Convention held in Harrisburg in the spring of 1823, as a Delegate from the city, he was authorized to withdraw, and did withdraw, the name of his friend, Samuel D. Ingham, from the canvass—co-operating zealously to produce entire harmony in the ranks of his party, by the nomination of John Andrew Shultz, who was subsequently elected by a majority exceeding twenty-five thousand. At this election, the Federal candidate was fiercely sustained by all the opponents of the war of 1812.

National politics were now becoming interesting. Mr. Dallas was an admirer of the distinguished author of the war of 1812, John C. Calhoun, and only yielded this preference to the suddenly started, but irresistible claims of Andrew Jackson, for the Presidency. At a celebrated and overflowing town meeting, held for the City and County of Philadelphia, at which a Republican patriot presided, he secured the unanimity of the Democratic Party of Pennsylvania, by “striking the flag” of the eminent Statesman of South Carolina for the first office, and impressively nominating him for the Vice Presidency, and by hoisting the banner of the Hero of New Orleans ; this remarkable movement, done with the knowledge and assent of Mr. Calhoun, was hailed throughout the State and Union with acclamation.

Mr. Dallas instantly took ground, in 1824, against the coalition of Adams and Clay, by which the proper choice of Jackson was defeated, and though indefatigably engaged in the labors of his profession, his efforts were unremitted to prepare the way for the great victory achieved in 1828 ; that victory even for a time, swept Federalism from the Corporation of Philadelphia, and, bearing Mr. Dallas on its surge, elected him Mayor of the City—in this post, however, he remained but about six months, receiving from General Jackson soon after his inauguration, the commission of United States District Attorney.

In December, 1831, Mr. Dallas was chosen by the Legislature to fill the seat made vacant by the death of Isaac D. Barnard, in the Senate of the United States ; and at the expiration of his term, in the spring of

1833, he peremptorily declined re-election, on the single ground that, being without hereditary or other fortune, his domestic duties forbade his exclusive devotion to those of a public nature. Governor Wolf, who had succeeded Governor Shultz in the executive chair of Pennsylvania, immediately offered him the appointment of Attorney General, and this, being perfectly consistent with his private pursuits, he accepted, and retained until the election of Joseph Ritner, when he resigned it.

In 1837 President Van Buren tendered to him, unexpectedly, the Mission to Russia, whither he went, and where he remained until late in the fall of 1839. He returned again vigorously to the practice of the law, and, declining the post of Attorney General of the United States, proffered to him on the lamented death of Felix Grundy, he would have remained in the industrious pursuit of personal and domestic independence, though never neglectful of the interests and honor of the great political family to which he always belonged, had he not been summoned, by the nomination of the Baltimore Convention and by the election of the people, in 1844, to fill the post he now occupies of Vice President.

His course of action as President of the Senate is well known to the American people. His opinions, as a statesman and politician, have been frankly declared on all proper occasions; He has harmonized with the administration of James K. Polk to the full extent of all its great measures of Democratic policy—the Tariff, the Constitutional Treasury, the War—but he remained unchanged in favor of asserting our right to the whole of Oregon as clear and unquestionable. As for the Tariff of 1846, so was he ready to make effective the will of the people by giving, if necessary, the *casting vote* for 54 40, for the War, and for the Constitutional Treasury.

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GREAT SPEECH  
OF THE  
HON. GEORGE MIFFLIN DALLAS,  
UPON THE LEADING TOPICS OF THE DAY,  
*Delivered in Pittsburgh, Sept. 18, 1847.*

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FELLOW-CITIZENS :

I had hoped that I might be excused, on the occasion of my present tour into the western part of my native State, from making any public speeches whatever. For upwards of forty years, my sentiments, and sympathies, and political acts have been with the Democracy of Pennsylvania, in all their trials, their difficulties, and their successes. My sentiments upon all the important questions which claimed their attention, have therefore become known to all who are conversant with the politics of our State and our country. I am, however, called upon to speak to you upon important subjects now claiming the attention of the country ; and do not feel that I have a right to refuse. I might truly urge as an excuse for not making any public addresses, the fact, that this tour has been undertaken, solely and exclusively with a view to pay a family visit ; but, having come into your vicinity, and the citizens of Pittsburgh having kindly extended to me an invitation to visit their city, to partake of their generous hospitality, and witness the state of circumstances surrounding them, I with pleasure comply with the present call upon me.

I have understood that the corporate seal of the city of Pittsburgh is made up of the coat of arms of the celebrated Earl of Chatham, who has been known as the most distinguished and ardent friend of the American cause, in the time of our first struggle for independence. But there has been suggested to my mind, on coming to your city, what I conceive to be a more appropriate coat of arms than that—derived from the pursuits, the character for industry, and the business habits of the people, together with the great sources of their wealth, and continued prosperity. When distant as much as twelve miles from your city, I could distinguish a dark and almost fixed cloud of coal smoke. I have since heard that

many of you are much interested in efforts to overcome this dark cloud resting over your otherwise beautiful city ; and that your government have been considering the propriety of adopting some plan, in order to effect this object. I have heard this ; and I have seriously thought, whether it would be proper to adopt such a plan. In this immense volume of coal smoke, rising, as it were, to heaven, and striking the view of the beholder at so great a distance, what is indicated ? What does it mean ? It at once informs the mind of the rising prosperity, and wealth, and importance of the " Iron City," and indicates the two great sources whence that wealth and importance are derived. It points, also, to the most appropriate things which may be woven into a new coat of arms for your city. These great sources of wealth are coal and iron. In the formation of a new coat of arms, suppose you were to adopt for its supporters two columns of smoke. Let its crest also be a cloud of coal smoke ; and the base on which to rest the columns may be of coal and iron ore—the latter in the process of being smelted, and the supporters and the crest of your coat of arms would thus be truly indicated, and would most aptly represent the causes of all this life, and activity, and business ; of this wonderful perfection in the mechanic arts ; of the beauty and excellence of your fabrics ; and of the scene of prosperity, unexcelled in this western world. This mighty volume ought not to be destroyed. It ought still to remain opened before you, to remind your citizens, and all who may visit you, of the sources of your greatness ; and the extent to which you are prepared to go, in order to maintain your exalted position.

I am pleased to see, here, all the evidences of highly civilized life—comfort, intelligence, and the greatest degree of perfection in all the mechanic arts ; with edifices that would do honor to any city in the country. The great city of Philadelphia, the commercial emporium of the State, does not boast so truly grand a structure as this, for the purposes for which it was appropriated ; and in addition to this, there were manufacturing establishments second to few in the country ; and numerous private residences, embracing all the essential requisites of convenience, elegance, taste, and beauty. I cannot but be delighted at all these evidences of prosperity : and am truly rejoiced to find none of the evidences of that *ruin* which had by many been so confidently predicted ; but every thing to excite in the mind sentiments of pleasure and admiration.

But there are many topics upon which you are no doubt anxious to hear some remarks. \* I have no secrets to keep from the American people, in relation to any subject claiming their attention. Holding a prominent station in the government, it is of course expected of me that I will

state frankly my views, on all subjects which their servants may be called upon to act; and I do this cheerfully, without regard to whether they shall be generally accepted by those who hear me, or not. They are the honest convictions of my own mind. If they shall square with the sentiments of those who hear me, I will be pleased: if not, we must continue to disagree; and I impeach not the honesty of purpose of those who differ in opinion from the great Democratic party, with which I act.

I have heretofore given expression to my sentiments upon the subject of the great change that has taken place in our revenue laws, known as the Tariff. On this subject one may speak without limit; and to present my views on this point, would only be to repeat what has already been said. There is one idea, however, that may be advanced, which has not, perhaps, been presented as often as it should have been. Many persons suppose that the late Tariff act is not calculated to effect that good which would have resulted from that of 1842. The Tariff of 1846 differs, it is true, from that of 1842, but in what? By a reduction of the rate of duties on some articles; a change in others, fixing on them a higher rate; an abandonment of the system of specific duties; and also that of minimum duties. It also provides for a different mode of collecting the duties on imports. Here, then, is the difference between the two laws. There is a change. This nobody will deny. But it is still a Tariff, and thus gives a denial to the pretensions which have been set up by some, that the Tariff of 1846 is a free trade law. Every duty imposed upon articles of importation, is in contravention of the laws of free trade, and goes to protect the manufacturer of similar articles in our country, and, so far as it goes, is a direct tax upon the consumer of that article, for the benefit of the producer. So long, therefore, as the people of the country shall prefer to support their government by a resort to taxes upon imported articles, in preference to a direct tax, they go to sustain their own manufactures, to the exact extent of the amount of duties collected, whether that amount shall be thirty-six millions of dollars or only thirty millions of dollars. This Tariff is not one according with any just idea of free trade; but is positively, to the extent of the duties accruing under it, a restriction upon commerce.

In this State, of all others in the Union, the subject of excises, or internal duties imposed upon merchandise, had claimed, perhaps, the greatest share of the attention of the people: for the citizens of Pennsylvania had probably most deeply felt the effects of such a system. The matter had been first brought to their more direct consideration, as long since as 1794, when an excise was laid upon whiskey. The result of the law imposing this tax is well known. The tendency of such laws had been

most fully and fearlessly presented to the minds of the people, and the subject was thoroughly understood by them. They had been appealed to by every consideration connected with the interests of the country, to support that system ; and they had listened attentively to these appeals. But the interests of the State were deemed of too great moment to be quietly relinquished ; and they were contended for until the evil was overcome. To some extent, the appeal thus made was wrong. The people believed, and they still continue to believe, that the more constitutional and the least obnoxious mode of providing for the wants of the general government is, not by internal excises, but by duties laid upon foreign goods. So long as this shall continue to be the policy favored by the people, commerce must continue to be restricted, to some extent ; and the assertion, that our government, is a government of free trade, is therefore emphatically denied, by the very laws which are framed for its continuance. And, so long as this system shall be continued, commerce must of necessity be restricted, to the extent of the duties imposed on foreign goods for the support of the government. By means of this system our manufactures will continue to enjoy protection to the amount of every cent of the revenue from foreign goods, which compete with those of our manufacture, whether that amount shall be large or small. I have thought it not amiss to make these few remarks upon this topic—though an apology for having dwelt so long upon it is perhaps due to you, from the free and full discussions which you undoubtedly have often heard and participated in ; and I therefore pass to another subject, confident that your own common-sense views of the correctness of the present policy, will lead to its approval.

Much is said, of late, in relation to the manner of conducting the present war with Mexico. The subject is one which rightfully claims the attention of our whole country. We are at war with a Sister Republic, with a Christian People, whose faith, from its antiquity alone, is entitled to our deference and respect. However we may differ in relation to the question of the war itself, every good citizen must desire that it should be brought to a close as speedily as possible, compatible with the honor and the interests of our country, and the rights of her citizens. But, while remarks are made, condemning the manner in which the war has been brought about, and thus far conducted, it would seem, that the whole subject has not received that attention which its importance demanded. It would be well, at least, to know and ponder well upon all the causes which led to it, and all the results which have thus far followed it, before sentence of condemnation is pronounced. And what were the causes which led to this war ? Some contend that the annexation of Texas was

the immediate cause of the war; while others think that this was but a remote cause. The true causes are numerous, but the principal ones may be briefly enumerated. They were an unjustifiable capture of property of American citizens, withholding from them their just dues, violating their rights without even an offer of redress; insults almost innumerable upon the flag of our country; and a direct trespass upon our soil, and slaughter of our countrymen. Texas had been annexed to our Union. She had been a sovereign and independent nation. On entering our confederacy we were bound to protect her. When, therefore, her soil was threatened with invasion, our government sought to find the most effectual means by which to overcome the meditated evil. The brave, magnanimous, patriotic, and long-tried soldier, old ZACHARY TAYLOR, was directed to take such a position in the Territory of Texas, as would best enable him to protect her citizens. Occupying a position upon the river Neuces, he soon ascertained that another position was more desirable, in order to effect the object. He therefore at once suggested and recommended to the Executive the occupation of a post on the Rio Grande. This admirable and sagacious recommendation, was at once complied with; and he took a position in accordance with his own views of the work entrusted to him: and upon whom could the administration have more implicitly relied, in a similar emergency, than upon this old and tried patriot and soldier? This was his first movement. And none have forgotten the ever memorable 8th and 9th of May, 1846, when he was the hero of two battles, equalling, in their leading features, the most brilliant achievements of the Revolutionary War.

No one then doubted that the position of Gen. Taylor was within the limits of Texas; and while upon the Neuces, no one accused the government of the United States with the design of making war upon Mexico. But subsequent developments proved that the advance of Gen. Taylor upon the Rio Grande, was not only proper, but actually called for, by every honorable and politic consideration. After these two great battles, when some property, of the Mexican General. Arista, was examined, it was found that he was in the possession of positive orders from his government, to make war upon the people of the United States; and his conduct for some time previous to those battles, proved that he was engaged in carrying into effect the orders of his government. This single fact, affords a sufficient answer to all those who charge upon the present administration the act of beginning this war. And how has the war been conducted? Just as all our wars have been conducted heretofore; and as they always should be—relying upon the volunteers of our country—those who feel that their interests are at stake—for the defence of the country.

So long as our fellow-citizens shall sanction our present policy, all our wars must be conducted in a similar manner. We never can be, we never ought to be, prepared for war. Our people want neither large armies nor fleets, except when their rights as a people are assailed, their soil invaded, or their countrymen slaughtered by a foreign foe! and in all cases of sudden invasion, the constitution has wisely vested in the Chief Magistrate the power to prevent aggression, and even to assert our rights. Let us see, then, how this war has been conducted. With all the difficulties incident to campaigns in an unsettled and hostile country, with but a handful of regular soldiers, and the preparations to be made for equipping and supporting, and qualifying for service a large volunteer force, we have in less than eighteen months advanced to the capital of Mexico: we have taken several of her most important cities; we have conquered nearly two-thirds of her territory.

The manner in which the war has been conducted, is only fairly to be judged by the results which have taken place since its commencement and which may yet take place; and therefore what ever may be said respecting mistakes that have been made, let us look at the results, and we will find that all those who have been most immediately connected with it, are entitled to the highest applause; and justice cannot be fairly meted out until it shall be brought to a close, and all the circumstances surrounding the principal actors shall be made known: and, that it should be brought to a termination, is my ardent desire. What more can we desire? We have repelled invasion; we have achieved victory after victory; the laurels have all been gathered, they have been all gathered by our brave countrymen; but the gleanings of the crop now remain; all else is ours, and our country's forever! I would, therefore, again say, let us have peace. The majesty of justice—our national honor—the rights of our citizens have been vindicated; let us, then, have peace. But how shall this peace be secured? Is there a man in the country who is willing to inflict upon the people of Mexico more of suffering than they have already endured? I do not believe there is one. Our only wish is, to obtain from them a guaranty that we will not be insulted hereafter, and that our rights shall be respected. But we must have security against the repetition of injuries upon us. And to whom must we look—to whom do we look for this security? We look to the government of Mexico alone. We ask only their own solemn pledge that we shall not hereafter be wronged with impunity.

How, then, has this war been conducted? At every step of its progress, we have informed the government of Mexico that we were willing and anxious for peace; for the acknowledgment of wrong on her part,

and a promise to wrong us no more. Even at the gates of her capital, our General in command yields to the impulse of peace. When he might have entered as a conqueror, with banners waving and drums beating, amid the loud howls of the "dogs of war," he halts, and in the spirit of a negotiator, tells the foe "*we wish for peace*—will you cease to inflict injury upon us? We merely wish you to deal justly towards us, and then we can be friends, then you will find us more ready to defend your altars and firesides, than we have ever been to inflict punishment and suffering upon you." It is to be hoped that there will now be peace; and that the result will prove beneficial to the interest, and accord with the highest sense of honor, of the Mexican nation. There are surely none who wish even for peace, at the sacrifice of the highest interests and the honor of the United States. This is my belief, and I hope that such will not be the end of the Mexican war.

There is another question before the people, of great moment, and which excites a great deal of attention, that is intimately connected with this war. If, upon the conclusion of a treaty with Mexico, we should come into possession of one-half or two-thirds of her territory—what are we to do with it? This is a question of difficult solution. Of one thing we are quite certain—the Yankees will in time overrun that portion of their territory; and though there is much Mexican blood upon it, we may look to the period as not more remote than a single life-time, when a number of large States, stretching from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific ocean, will be distinguished in the constellation of our Union. The question to which I refer, anticipates the acquisition of this territory. It is known as the Wilmot proviso. And what is the meaning of this question? A portion of the people of the United States, have their hearts set against the extension of slavery; and there are scarcely any means which some do not deem justifiable, in order to accomplish their purpose. With a large number, this subject is no doubt a matter of conscience and of principle; and they assume that a certain portion of territory is to be derived from Mexico, as an indemnity for the wrongs done to us, and our expenses in the war. These people say, that if we take this territory, there should be no slavery tolerated within it. To this, another portion of the country object. They say that if we acquire this territory, it will come through the toil and blood of the country in common—that of the North and South; and we are not disposed to say that this territory shall be appropriated exclusively to the people in the North.

This is one of those difficulties which have surrounded us from the organization of our government; and it can only be properly settled in accordance with the Constitution of our country. Shall we be deprived

of the opportunity of gaining this territory ? What shall we do with the Wilmot Proviso ? For me, I hold myself in readiness for the crisis, whenever it shall be presented—even should I be compelled, from my position, to give another terrible *casting vote* ! I shall carefully examine the subject, weigh well the able arguments on both sides of the question, which may be presented by the giant intellects of our country, and reserve to myself the right to do as I think right, when the time may come for action.

There is but one political course which a man can take, in safety to his conscience—that course is a strict adherence to the Constitution. That is the charter by which to determine our powers. That is the compass by which alone we can safely steer our political barque. If you can accomplish the abolition of slavery in the Southern States through its instrumentality, why do so. But I hope there are none who would do so at the hazard of our Union, liberty and independence. The only true test, however, to which we can submit this question, or any other that may arise, is the Constitution. But it is unfortunately the case, with many of those who seem most interested in the question of abolishing slavery, that they are not much governed by such a principle as this. There is a something above our Constitution, above our laws, above our world itself, that is invoked. These persons should remember, that there is a means by which to accomplish their ends, if they be right, much more safe and sure, than that of destroying the only safeguard which they have for their own liberty. If they be indeed sincere in their designs, let them toil on until they shall be able to effect such a change in the Constitution itself as they desire ; but, while that instrument positively prohibits any interference by one State with the institutions of another, I could hope that State pride alone, if there were no more liberal and general principle, would forbid the people of Pennsylvania to interfere with the peculiar affairs of her sister States, as readily as she would resent even the appearance of meddling by another State, with affairs especially her own.

But we hear, in some quarters, much talk of what is called *compromise*. I am of that old school of Democrats who will never compromise the Constitution of my country. This is one of the words not to be found in that instrument. It was itself a result of compromise ; but, once having become a thing of shape, of life, of spirit, than all compromise was at an end. It was a settled principle, a positive rule—a thing which might be broken ; but having no materials in it which were capable of being bent. In it are to be found all the provisions for our government ; and if you wish for other provisions, you cannot put them there—all the



legislation of Congress cannot put them there—unless in accordance with its provisions. At the time of the admission of Missouri into the Union, I found the same sentiment very generally prevailing in some sections. I had the same opinions then on this subject that I have now; and in the midst of the agitation then manifest, there were many who could not see where the agitation would end. Then men got together and talked of compromises, and made compromises, and one-half insisted on what they had no right to ask, and the other half submitted to that which they never should have submitted to. Any such system as this is calculated gradually to undermine the Constitution. Far better would be an instantaneous change in its provisions, by Convention, than any compromise whatever inconsistent with that instrument itself.

The officers of the general government are awake to the importance of this subject; and there is no doubt that there will be much agitation in both Houses of Congress upon it. In the Senate, I have no doubt it will be examined in all its bearings; and I sincerely hope that something will be found to arise from it, calculated to place our institutions upon a still more firm and enduring basis than they even now are. The very best thing which can be done, when all is said upon the subject that may be said, will be to let it alone entirely—leaving to the people of the territory to be acquired, the business of settling the matter for themselves: for where slavery has no existence, all the legislation of Congress would be powerless to give it existence; and where we find it to exist the people of the country have themselves adopted the institution; they have the right, alone, to determine their own institutions; and, as the matter so exists elsewhere, they are not to be condemned for its existence.

There is one other subject, upon which I will say a few words. A great convention recently assembled at Chicago composed to some extent of gentlemen from all parts of the country, of both the leading political parties. What led to this meeting, it seems, was a desire to see whether something could not be done to change the face of a measure, which has been vetoed by the Executive—the bill providing for the improvement of Rivers and Harbors. Upon this subject, the people of the United States should think much and act resolutely. Our first inquiry should be, Does the Constitution authorize Congress to improve the navigation of Western Rivers? Respecting improvements calculated to facilitate commercial operations, a great difficulty has been to find what Congress might do. The subject is one of extreme interest and importance; and is likely to claim much of our attention hereafter. It has arisen under that provision of the Constitution which gives to Congress the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations in the United States, and also between the

several states themselves ; and it is claimed, with great force, that under this provision, the right to appropriate money for the improvement of rivers and harbors, is unconstitutional. It is, however, certain, that the American people are destined to fill the vast country West of the Atlantic ; and that, where they go, their industry, and energy, and wealth, will mark out roads for commerce, which will require the attention of the government. And, if there is no constitutional inhibition, why should not the West partake of the means of improvement which she so materially aids in furnishing ? Why should the Eastern States grudge to the Sons of the West a portion of those means ? Why virtually say to them, You may look at our light-houses, our piers, our buoys, and our breakwaters ; but we will not allow your rivers to be cleared—the beacon light may shine forth, to warn our sailors of rocks and shoals ; but your steamboats may be sunk by snags and sawyers—we care not ! We have had what we wanted, what we needed, for the protection of our commerce—take care of yourselves. Such distinctions as would prompt to this course, are unworthy, and would never be made by a generous mind. If the constitution speaks of equality among the States and the people of the States, and the government encourages, as it has done, improvements of the East, let us wisely appropriate the public money for the benefit of all.

Here an objection is raised. We will be constantly liable, some say, to have the most gross imputations practised upon us. We will be obliged to improve every little creek in the West. There is no necessity for yielding to attempts at imposition, if they should be made. You never do so ; for you examine critically what is the character of the proposed improvement. Therefore, you need not refuse all, because men will try to impose upon you. This would be like determining to be blind, because you may be misled ; and ignorant, because you may be misinformed. Let us adopt a course in relation to these rivers and harbors, compatible with the Constitution ; and such as has been enjoyed by a portion of the country since the formation of the government,

I hope to be pardoned for having dwelt so long upon these topics ; but as I have very seldom enjoyed an opportunity of addressing my fellow-citizens of Pittsburg, and may never again enjoy that privilege, I have thought it proper to give you some general views upon these leading questions. There are some others occasionally referred to ; but they may, many of them, be now considered, as a distinguished statesman has termed them, “obsolete ideas.” Among the foremost of these is a Bank of the United States, which has intellectually descended to the “tomb of the Capulets.” It is not now necessary to conjure up its ghost ; as there is hardly a man in the country, who would be willing to sink himself be-

neath the weight of such an undefined mass. The same may be said of a Protective Tariff, by which I mean a Tariff strictly with reference to protection. No statesman will propose either of these measures now.

There are some things which are fixed and unchangeable. Among these may be mentioned the freedom of the Press—freedom to circulate whatever is deemed of interest to the people, concerning either themselves directly, or their servants. This subject was fixed by the occurrences of 1798; and on all topics of a public nature it will remain as a rule absolute. Freedom of conscience, or the right to worship at any shrine the believer may cherish, is also one of our fixed principles. Freedom of personal opinion and action, is also an unchangeable rule in our country, while not incompatible with the laws. So likewise remains that glorious structure of the ancestors of the American People—the Union—a fixed and unchanged, and unchangeable fact, which nothing earthly can overcome. Can you look forward and contemplate the enduring character of your country? Can you believe that this last hope of all men will not ever remain? Stand by your glorious institutions. Cherish them as the brightest trophies achieved from the enemies of your principles; and nothing can equal the futurity which the American People, the American Union, and the American States will realize.

Mr. Dallas was frequently interrupted, during the delivery of this address, by deafening rounds of applause, and sat down amid three hearty rounds, such as the Democracy know how to give.

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*Extract from a speech delivered by GEORGE MIFFLIN DALLAS, on the invitation of the Democratic citizens of the City and County of Philadelphia, on the 4th of July, 1815, nearly 33 years ago.*

#### OUR BATTLES WITH THE ENGLISH.

“Turning our contemplation, fellow-citizens, to the dispositions and movements of our armies, we still have abundant reasons for pride and exultation. What if, at the onset, the buoyant impetuosity and rash indignation of our troops threatened irretrievable defeat and apparent disgrace? What, if the hacknied regulars, disciplined by time and callous from experience, baffled the immethodical, though lively and spirited attacks of a patriotic militia? The time speedily arrived when our ears becoming familiarized to ‘the clamorous report of war,’ our habits ac-

commodated to the necessities of military subordination, and our tactics improved under the direction of native genius ; we commenced a retaliation that concluded only with the general overthrow of our antagonist. Bowing, with submission, to the transcendant elevation of the Father of his Country, we can remember none with whom we might rank our JACKSON, our BROWN, and our SCOTT. The almost miraculous rout at New Orleans, the decisive victory at Erie, and the tremendous carnage at Bridgewater, have conferred everlasting fame on these respective chieftains."

#### THE HARTFORD CONVENTION.

"While thus, under the directing auspices of a Democratic administration, the ardent, adventurous, and persevering soldiers of the United States repelled the aggressions of a foe meditating subjugation and marking the track of his career with '*plunder, rape, and fire*;' and while laboriously pursuing every national object, the redress of our injuries and the vindication of our honor, it is somewhat humiliating to reflect that a dissatisfied and restless portion of our community, adopting all the artifice and exhibiting all the falsehood of faction, prepared, with inexplicable malignity, to involve us in the distractions of separation and the miseries of domestic war. The times indeed were propitious for treachery ; and an age might not again present so flattering an opportunity to gratify the aspirations of party ambition, and the views of personal aggrandizement ;

Waiting 'till discord havoc cries,  
In hopes, like Catiline, to rise  
On anarchy to power.

True it is, that by dividing public sentiment and by vilely exaggerating the calamities of our contest, our rulers might be embarrassed in its prosecution and the safety of our liberties endangered ; true it is, that by alluring our enemies and alarming our friends, by discouraging the spirit of enlistment, and ridiculing the seductive charms of martial reputation, our government might gradually have been compelled to sue for ignominious peace, with the ruin of its own popularity and the perpetual dishonor of the nation.

"Though the arm of legal authority might not penetrate the secret recesses of a convention brooding over projects of confusion and silently canvassing the theories of self constituted statesmen, mysteriously concealing proceedings, whose aim and character were universally understood, and scattering ambiguous hints among a misguided people ; yet have they excited indignation enough throughout this country to be branded with lasting infamy.

"The canting sages of Hartford, fortunately for themselves and the land they would betray, were left unsupported and unsanctioned, to endure the keen ridicule and contemptuous abhorrence of their fellow-citizens.

"If the desperate leaders of the opposition should ever again attempt to benefit by the dangers that encompass, and the difficulties that embarrass the government of their country, the warning example of the Hartford Convention may arrest their career ; and, if it does not inculcate a lesson of moderation, it may at least evince the prudence of selecting a more fair and honorable moment of hostility."

# MR. DALLAS AND THE PRESIDENCY.

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The healthy tone of public sentiment manifested in various sections of the country in commendation of Mr. Dallas' course, point significantly to him as *the man* of the people; and the numerous public demonstrations, throughout the Union, in favor of his nomination for the Presidency in 1848, clearly show that he should be selected as the standard bearer of the Democracy in that important contest. The following are selected from a number of Democratic meetings recently held.

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## OUTPOURINGS OF THE PEOPLE.

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### *Henry County, Kentucky.*

At a meeting of the Democracy of Henry County, Kentucky, held at the Court House in the town of New Castle, on Monday the 1st day of November, 1847, being county court day, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of holding a Democratic National Convention, to nominate candidates for the office of President and Vice President of the United States in 1848, the following resolutions were read to the meeting, *and after being fully discussed*, were unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, By the Democracy of Henry County, that it is proper and highly expedient to hold a Democratic National Convention, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the office of President and Vice President of the United States in 1848; and that we will abide by the nomination made by said convention.

*Resolved*, That justice and sound policy dictate the holding of said Convention in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, on the first Monday of May, 1848.

*Resolved*, That we recommend to the Democracy of the United States the name of HON. GEORGE M. DALLAS, of Pennsylvania, as a suitable candidate for the office of President of the United States in 1848, and that we recommend Gen. WILLIAM O. BUTLER, of Kentucky, to the Democracy of the Union as a suitable candidate for the office of Vice President in 1848.

*Resolved*, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in all the Democratic papers in Kentucky.

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### *Camden County, New Jersey.*

At a large and enthusiastic meeting of the Democracy of Camden county, New Jersey, held on the 23d of November, 1847, "for the purpose of placing upon nomination that faithful, fearless, and tried Demo-

crat, Hon. GEORGE M. DALLAS, as the Democratic candidate for the Presidency in 1848," the following resolutions were unanimously adopted :

*Resolved*, That in the personal and political character of Vice President GEORGE MIFFLIN DALLAS we recognize an embodiment and exemplification of the cardinal principles of Democracy ; and that his sterling integrity, uniform fidelity to high trusts reposed in him, and his fearless defence of Democratic principles, entitle him to the consideration of the American people as a favorite son worthy the highest office in the gift of the people.

*Resolved*, That his bold and manly advocacy of the rights of the laboring classes, the prosperity of the agricultural interests of the country, and the freedom of commerce, centred in the "*casting vote*," place him in a pre-eminent degree in the affections of the people, as one of the greatest benefactors and purest patriots of the age.

*Resolved*, That we do now form a political organization, to be called "The Dallas Executive Committee," for the purpose of carrying out the expressed wish of the Democracy of Camden, in the nomination and support of GEORGE MIFFLIN DALLAS, of Pennsylvania, for the Presidency in 1848.

*Resolved*, That in thus expressing a preference for that distinguished citizen, we mean no disrespect to any other candidate who has been, or may be, named for that high and responsible office.

*Resolved*, That we call upon the Democracy of New Jersey, who are favorable to the nomination of GEORGE M. DALLAS for the Presidency in 1848, to hold similar meetings in their respective counties, and to form "Dallas Executive Committees" to carry out more effectually their views and desires.

*Resolved*, That we are in favor of a Democratic National Convention to nominate a suitable candidate for the office of President and Vice President in 1848, and we recommend the fourth Monday in May next and Baltimore as the time and place of holding such Convention.

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### *Delaware County, Pennsylvania.*

At a meeting of the Democracy of Delaware county, Pa., held at Leipserville, on the 11th of November, 1847, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted :

*Whereas*, The Democracy of Pennsylvania cannot lay aside state pride and geographical boundaries, and forget their native state, and her just claims, if ever to be entitled to consideration in the selection of a candidate for the high and responsible office of President of the United States, they feel called upon by every consideration of justice and patriotism, to stand upon the broad principles of the Constitution, as well as their natural and reserved rights, and declare their preference for the man whose whole life is the certificate of his Democracy, and a practical illustration of the great and leading principles of our republican institutions ; and one who has given unequivocal evidence of his statesmanship, his honesty, and his devoted attachment to the great mass of the American people : therefore,

*Resolved*, That in view of these considerations, we respectfully present

the name of GEORGE M. DALLAS as our candidate for the next Presidency ; an unwavering Democrat, firm and steadfast, and an eminent statesman of distinguished talents, the friend of equal privileges ; his casting vote, giving to the producers of the Union, the equitable revenue law of 1846, has won for him an imperishable reputation, as an honest recipient of power and a republican statesman.

*Resolved*, That we recommend to our Democratic fellow-citizens throughout the State, to form similar Associations in the several counties, and use all honorable means to secure the nomination of Pennsylvania's favorite son, the American statesman, George M. Dallas, as the candidate for the next President of the United States.

—  
*Northern Liberties, Philadelphia County, Pa.*

At a meeting of the Democracy of the Northern Liberties, held on the 24th of November, 1847, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted :

*Whereas*, The time is fast approaching when the freemen of this Union—a Republic now numbering over twenty millions of inhabitants—will be called upon to cast their votes for the important offices of President and Vice President of this vast and increasing Republic, for the ensuing Presidential term of four years ; and whereas, we hold it essentially important to the cause of civil and religious liberty, that honest, competent, original, and long-tried friends and advocates of sound Democratic principles, should be selected for our principal agents, and more especially for the highly responsible office of Chief Magistrate of the Union ; and whereas, it is the duty, as well as the privilege, of every freeman entitled to the right of suffrage to exercise the high prerogative of a freeman in reality—in other words, to be his own representative, in pursuance of authority conferred upon him by Nature's God and the Constitution of the United States ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That in the exercise of this inviolable right and privilege, we are free to declare and proclaim that our preference for the Presidency of this Union, at the ensuing election, is that of GEORGE MIFFLIN DALLAS, of Pennsylvania ; because in him we recognize all those essential qualifications which eminently entitle him to the highest honor in the gift of a Free People—that concentrate in a single individual every element of prosperity and happiness within his control to dispense to others, and a spotless integrity which no money can purchase, nor no captivating hypocrite can wheedle from the path of rectitude : in fact, that he possesses every qualification to endear him to the people, and to ensure their confidence and support.

*Resolved*, That whilst the patriotic soldiers and sailors of the nation have been achieving glorious victories in a foreign country, Mr. Dallas has confirmed an act in the Senate chamber—his casting vote on the Tariff bill of '46—which has given a new and powerful impulse to all kinds of trade, and which will fill the pockets of the planters and farmers, and increase the demand for, and the pay of, the toiling millions, to an extent unknown before in the history of this Republic.

*Moyamensing, Philadelphia County, Pa.*

At a meeting of the Democratic citizens of the District of Moyamensing, held on the 18th of November, 1847, for the purpose of placing in nomination the People's Friend, GEORGE MIFFLIN DALLAS, for the Presidency in 1848, the following resolutions were passed :

*Resolved*, That in GEORGE MIFFLIN DALLAS, we recognize a man worthy of that high distinction, and would with all the gravity the occasion demands, present his name to our fellow-citizens of the Union, as a candidate for President of our country.

*Resolved*, That in selecting his from those illustrious names that honor and are honored by the land, we have no sectional feeling, we know no limits of State or Country, we cast disparagement upon none—but we love our country, and we know our man; we know that threats cannot appal him; nor great expecting hopes seduce him :

That neither fear nor hope can shake the frame  
Of his resolv'd powers :—

and with a single eye to his country's good, a mind to comprehend it, and strength of heart to pursue it he will in that high place advance the might, prosperity and glory of our Union, which, though not of a century's existence, while it storms and subdues Mexico with one hand, feeds the oppressed millions of Europe with the other—and thinks it little.

*Resolved*, That we express our opinion in favor of GEORGE M. DALLAS, for President, subject to the decision of a National Convention.

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## THE SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

The great speech of Mr. Dallas recently delivered in Pittsburgh, (which will be found in this pamphlet) as well as that more recently delivered at Hollidaysburg, have been hailed with approval and satisfaction throughout the length and breadth of our land; and the press of the North, the South, the East and the West, point to him as the most suitable person to lead the Democracy to victory in the coming campaign. With such a candidate there can be no such word as "FAIL." The following are selected, from a large number of similar notices, as a specimen of the *spirit* of the press :

*From the Camden (New Jersey) Democrat.*

**THE PRESIDENCY.**—The Democracy of the Union will be called on ere long, to present to the people a candidate for the Presidency. The choice of a suitable nominee will necessarily rest with a Democratic National Convention; but before that body convenes to select one from the several prominent Democrats now before the country for that distinguished and important post, it is the peculiar and appropriate privilege of every citizen to express a preference. We are prepared to do so, and present to the Democracy of New Jersey, and the Union, the Hon. GEORGE MIFFLIN



DALLAS, of Pennsylvania—the present able Vice President of the United States—for President in 1848, and we now place his name at the head of our columns, yielding only to the decision of a Democratic National Convention. Fifteen months ago, in the State of Indiana, we were the first to urge the claims of Mr. Dallas for the Presidency, since which time we have seen nothing to alter our then high opinions; but, on the contrary, much to strengthen our favorable predilections; and we feel convinced that the Democracy of New Jersey is second to none in undeviating devotion to that uncompromising statesman, who, in an hour of great responsibility, manfully performed the sacred obligations of a high trust, and who, sooner than waive the duty which he owed to his party and country, would “*prefer the deepest obscurity of private life, with an unwounded conscience, to the glare of official eminence, spotted by a sense of moral delinquency.*” The political career of Mr. Dallas is without a blemish. No single act can be found wherein he has not carried out, to the very letter, the views and wishes of the Democratic party. Cradled in Democracy, he now presents in full maturity, a noble specimen of the purity and integrity of correct principles, and an undeviating scrupulousness to the adherence of the rights and liberties of the laboring classes. His bold advocacy of all the leading topics of the day, announced in language so clear, beautiful, and plain, afford a striking feature in his character, and it has been very pertinently remarked, that no individual need be at a loss to know where Mr. Dallas can be found on any or all the great questions which now agitate the community.

The country, at the present period, is the theatre of unexampled prosperity. It has never been in so healthy a condition. The agricultural, manufacturing and commercial interests have thrived beyond the anticipations of the most sanguine calculators! and while we are uttering laudations for this happy state of affairs—proclaiming joyful tidings of the success of Democratic measures, North, South, East and West, we must not lose sight of the fact, that to the “*casting vote*” is to be attributed the crowning glory of so much contentment, happiness, and unparalleled enterprise in our midst. That the mass of the people can forget the inestimable blessings which that “*vote*” has conferred is not to be indulged for a moment. It stands out too boldly before the American people, a sparkling jewel in the diadem of Democracy, and he who, with intrepid courage, and calm consciousness of purpose, decided the fate of the Tariff of '46, shines even more bright and conspicuous. Divested of all extrinsic merits, that “*casting vote*” will ever live, fresh and green, in the memory of every citizen, which age cannot efface, nor time obliterate.

The decided stand Mr. Dallas has always taken in defence of the Constitution of his country, irrevocably endears him to the people. With reverential dignity does he approach the discussion of that sacred and solemn compact, and with what scrupulous exactness does he defend its provisions against any and every encroachment. As a bold pioneer in the promulgation of Democratic sentiments, Mr. Dallas evidently takes the lead. Being convinced he is right, he does not wait to see what course the body politic may pursue, but firmly and independently announces his views to the whole country, willing to stand or fall by the correct standard of public opinion. The career which he marks out for himself, is

"*unremittingly onward!*" keeping pace with the age, enlarging the sphere of general benefits, and carrying out those measures tending to elevate the real Democracy of the country beyond their present condition. With a standard bearer so devoted, so true, so pure, and so Democratic, the party can rally with confident success of a Jacksonian victory in 1848. With a Democrat of such lofty sentiments and sound views, the Republican party will sweep the country, from one extremity to the other.

—  
*From the West Chester (Pa.) Jeffersonian.*

THE PRESIDENCY.—Who is to be the next President of the United States? This question is now agitating the public and the press of the two great parties of the Union. Since the October election, the Democratic presses of this Commonwealth have taken sides with energy in favor of men most prominent in their respective estimation.

The present worthy executive, James K. Polk, Martin Van Buren, Richard M. Johnson, James Buchanan, and Lewis Cass, have each their friends and advocates, and their names already float from the heads of Democratic journals. While we accord to each of these champions of Democracy, that honorable distinction they unquestionably merit, we cannot be unmindful of the fact, that in the hearts of the Democrats of this section, the hero of the "*casting vote*" holds a prominent and abiding place. It is apparent to us, from the intercourse which our position favors, that he is destined to higher rewards. The casting vote of GEORGE M. DALLAS, of itself, shows a discrimination and a firmness of purpose, deserving of the highest encomium from the American people. Cast, as it was, amid the threats of opponents, and the wavering of friends, it was worthy the "*responsibility*" of a Jackson.

We are now reaping the benefits of that vote, in agricultural, mechanical, manufacturing, and commercial prosperity, and it would be strange if a community reputed for its intelligence and generosity, could look calmly upon the result without experiencing a thrill of pleasure at the mention of him whose foresight and firmness have secured the national blessing. Federal denunciations and threats were loud and deep against him; gloomy forebodings croaked from Federal lips, the prophecies were rife that that act would overwhelm him in the destruction and utter derangement of the great interests of the country, and bankrupt the Treasury. How triumphantly does he stand above his defilers, in the prosperity which abounds; and though the war waged in Mexico draws largely upon the Treasury, its results to that branch appear flatteringly adequate, and conclusively prove the prophecies and fears of the Federalists to be puerile and groundless.

But we have no desire at present to press a eulogy upon any particular act of the Vice President: his whole career stands too prominent before the people of the United States to justify the selection of a single act as the rallying point in his favor. Upon all the great political questions which agitate this country, he is open, free, and consistent with true Democratic faith; and we can say with entire confidence, that should he receive the nomination of the Democratic party, he would rally around him the united support of the Democracy of the Old Keystone, and of the Union.

## GREAT DALLAS MEETING IN PHILADELPHIA.

*An immense outpouring of the Friends and Neighbors of GEORGE MIFFLIN DALLAS, to present his name to the National Convention of the Democracy of the Nation, as a candidate for President of the United States.*

The Democratic Citizens of the City and County of Philadelphia, favorable to the nomination of Mr. Dallas for the Presidency, assembled in Mass Meeting in the great Saloon of the Chinese Museum, which holds many thousand persons and which was filled to overflowing with staunch Democrats, on Wednesday, December 1, 1847. The greatest enthusiasm existed amongst the vast assemblage, and the most perfect propriety characterized the whole proceedings. This demonstration proves beyond all doubt that in Philadelphia Mr. Dallas has a fast hold upon the affections of the people.

HON. ROBERT M. LEE, Recorder of the City of Philadelphia, called the meeting to order, and nominated the following officers, who were unanimously chosen :

### PRESIDENT,

**HON. HENRY L. BENNER.**

*Senator from the County of Philadelphia.*

### VICE PRESIDENTS.

#### *First District.*

Philip Eleman,  
Daniel Lafferty,  
Thomas Manderfield,  
Peter Logan,  
Banner Thomas,  
Jno McMahan,  
Thomas S Stewart,  
Jno S Thackara.

Thomas Graham,  
Richard Palmer,  
W Sayre Heysham,  
James Enue, jr,  
Charles Murphy,  
John Thompson,  
Henry Hoover,

Dennis Mealy,  
Thomas L Smith,  
Ald Jas W Fletcher,  
George Fite,  
Peter Lyons,  
Joseph L Smith,  
Wm H Knowles,

#### *Second District.*

Robert Ewing,  
Horn R Kneass,  
Francis Cooper,  
John Horn,  
Dr Wm H Schmoele,  
Jas McCary,  
D C Skerrett,  
Michael Lawn,  
Wm H Horstman.

Jas McAnall,  
Saml H Perkins,  
Edward Hurst,  
John Hamilton, jr,  
J R Vogdes,  
George Smith,  
Chas F Hyneman,  
Wm Curren,

E D Ingraham,  
John K Murphy,  
Francis Tiernan,  
John Birkey,  
J A Phillips,  
Jos Gatchel, jr,  
Robt F Christy,  
Joseph Snyder,

#### *Third District.*

Jno Miller, 7th Ward, N. L.

L S Burkhart,  
Jno A Bender,  
J H Fidler,  
Geo W Ash,  
Philip Hoffman,  
Henry Simpson,  
Geo O Runner,

Gustavus Remak,  
Jno C Smith,  
Wm H Smith,  
Jas D Wetham,  
Wm Bozorth,  
Jacob Kennard,  
D S Beideman,

Jas B Stevenson,  
Jno Murray,  
Wm Peirsol,  
Edmund Bradshaw,  
Michael Lawrence,  
Thos M Richards,  
Paul S Brown,  
Wm Seybert.

*Fourth District.*

Henry Leech,  
Michael Snyder,  
Hugh Clark,  
George W. Tryon,  
Jno. Felton,  
E. T. Tyson,  
Samuel Grice.

Philip M. Hagner,  
Benjamin Crispin,  
Jesse H. Flitcraft,  
Athanasius Ford,  
Nicholas Brouse,  
William A. Lee,

Paul K. Hubbs,  
Dennis Lamont,  
Jno. Stallman,  
John Foulkrod,  
Frederick Sorber,  
Philip Duffy,

## SECRETARIES.

*First District.*

John Oakford,  
Edward M'Gowen,  
J. J. Walters.

A. P. Hesser,  
Isaac P. Whetstone,

Wm. M. Riley,  
T. W. Hughes,

*Second District.*

Joseph Severns,  
Jno McKibbin,  
Aaron Waters,

Jno F Read,  
Chas N Robbins,  
Jno E Baum.

Alex E Dougherty,  
Curtis Grubb, Jr,

*Third District.*

Francis F Wolgamuth,  
Geo Vonedia,  
Geo W Dewey,

Geo W Clark,  
Stewart Magee,  
John Hentz.

B Franklin Jackson,  
Peter Baker,

*Fourth District.*

Joseph Deal,  
Wm Deal,  
Jacob Collar,

Jno O'Brien,  
Henry Mather,  
John Leech.

Thomas H Palmer,  
Geo Shetzline,

The President upon taking the Chair, briefly and pertinently addressed the meeting upon the object for which it had assembled, which received and merited the hearty applause of the vast concourse who were present.

HENRY A. GILDEA then came forward, and read the following resolutions, which were adopted with great acclamation and immense cheering.

Whereas, The Democracy of the United States of America is now, under Providence, the strongest and safest guardian of the equal rights, progressive improvements, public liberties, and private happiness of mankind, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Constitution of our Country, ordained by our republican fathers in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, and promote the general welfare, is as faultless as human wisdom and virtue can make it, and should faithfully and unfalteringly be maintained in the full integrity of its provisions, limitations, and spirit.

Resolved, That the fundamental principles and inseparable designs of the Democratic party are to shield from encroachments, the reserved sovereignty of each State, and the sovereign power of the people: to maintain inviolate the constitutional and legal equality of the people: to vindicate the religious independence and elective freedom of the People: to guarantee the liberty, safety, property, and pursuits of the People: to check and frustrate every meditated departure from the terms and stipulations of the national compact: to repel every approach and eradicate every vestige of aristocracy: to stand immovably by the Freedom of Speech and the Liberty of the Press: to uphold the dignity of productive labor, and to resist the oppressions of contumelious wealth, to emancipate industry from the shackles of monopoly, and the privileges of classes: and in a word, to preserve for every freeman the image and attributes bestowed by the hand of his Creator upon his race.

Resolved, That, under the auspices of the Democratic party, whose principles and designs we have sketched, our country has become prosperous, powerful and happy. In two wars, in spite of the cold-blooded "moral treason" of Federalism, her affectionate sons redeemed her soil from the pollution of an enemy's foot, and encircled her brows with an unfading chaplet of victory and honor. In peace, the

genius of Abundance and the Divinity of Science, have walked hand in hand in our midst, diffusing comfort, contentment, intellectual culture and moral vigor. And though the storms of faction, inseparable concomitants of republican institutions, have fiercely raged, they were always baffled by the energy, or lulled by the truthful persuasions of Democracy. To this party then we owe our allegiance; and continuing mindful of its pure creed, its generous aims and its blessed results, we solemnly pledge to it our undivided affections, and unswerving fidelity.

Resolved, That we place the tariff of 1816 in the foremost rank of great practical reforms achieved by the American Democracy, founded on the unchangeable principles of justice, equality, philanthropy and truth, its trial has been instant triumph. Like the rising sun, it has suddenly dispelled the mists of a protracted night; nor is it possible now by any re-gathering of the clouds of dark and explored fallacies, to overcast "the casting vote."

Resolved, That we heartily congratulate the venerable Sage of Lindenwald upon the reëstablishment and salutary operation of the great measure by which he marked his adherence to the policy of Andrew Jackson; a policy which relieved the political and financial movements of the American people and their government from the incubus and corruption of a sordid oligarchy; which, under the calm, easy and conservative workings of the Constitutional Treasury, has given solidity to our currency, exalted our National credit, repressed the fluctuations of our exchanges, and sheltered our mercantile brethren from the countless explosions of bankruptcy, now shaking, as by a series of earthquakes, the whole banking and paper fabric of European commerce.

Resolved, That, as the so-called Mexican republic, urged on by the rash vain-glory and reckless cupidity of her military chieftains, after long despoiling our trade, insolently treating our flag, scornfully rejecting our ministers and agents, imprisoning and butchering our citizens, and faithlessly violating treaties, has at last forced us into war by officially threatening to invade and then actually invading one of these States, by slaying our soldiers and attempting to surround, capture and destroy an American army, stationed on American soil. A war thus unjustly and violently imposed upon us, we are neither the dastards to shrink from, nor the traitors to discourage; but with a full reliance on the justice of our cause, and the tried valor of our troops, we exhort our government to persevere in its active and energetic prosecution, until this self-created enemy shall sue for peace on whatever terms we may please to dictate, or until the conquest of her entire territory shall put an end to a nationality so shamefully abused and ignobly forfeited.

Resolved, That the people of the United States have, in the judgment of this meeting, suffered too long and too much under the irresponsible tyranny and demoralizing influences of incorporated combinations, whose charters are construed into partial grants of sovereign powers, and are held to vest irreclaimable rights; that such combinations are hostile to progressive republicanism, tending to concentrate dangerously the coercive faculties of capital, to sap the freedom of intelligent opinion, and to produce practical subserviency and dependence.

Resolved, That in order to keep each generation of American citizens up to the standard and the exigencies of their political institutions, too much attention cannot be bestowed on the subject of Education; that to cultivate the mind and enlighten the conscience, are essential to the public functions and social morals of a people, from the hollows of whose hands flow all the streams of government and power, and that to attain these vital objects, such changes should be voluntarily and gradually effected in the hours of actual labor, as may secure to the toiling and untiring millions the moments necessary for intellectual improvement, religious study, and all the varied and sacred obligations of domestic duty.

And whereas, the recent political events in Pennsylvania have rendered her and her citizens objects of the special attention of the rest of the States; hence it is incumbent upon us to look to the importance of our position, and wisely determine the most substantial policy essential to the permanency of the great principles we have set forth, of which our Commonwealth has proved herself the zealous and successful champion.

And whereas, her leading sons have also become the landmarks of the times, endeared to the people by a uniform and consistent allegiance to truth, self, becoming a cheerful sacrifice in behalf of the country and her institutions. Therefore be it further

Resolved, That Pennsylvania, in the last October election has not only more than sustained her well established reputation for faithful adherence to Democratic principles, but has proved her title to the abiding confidence of the Nation.

Resolved, That the integrity of the State administration, and its scrupulous devotion to the cardinal doctrines of Democracy, elicited the late overwhelming approbation of our citizens, in vindication of the character and course of Governor Shunk, and of the General Administration, from the treasonable assaults of the Federal press.

Resolved, That as the Hon. G. M. Dallas, in the Senate, fearlessly threw himself into the breach, and saved the vital policy of the Union from the greedy rapacity of the money-monger, so the vetoes of Gov. Shunk rescued the State from the destructive clutch of incorporated monopolies, and our people have adopted the *Casting Vote* and *Vetoes* as their lights and landmarks, under whose genial and inspiring influence they sent up the shout of triumph.

Resolved, That Vice President Dallas, by his uniform and consistent democracy, by the sterling virtues which he inherited from his distinguished father, by his bold and determined defence of the fundamental truths we all profess, has rendered himself the favorite of his native State, and we look upon him as the promiaent standard bearer of the great principles of progressive Democracy; as the representative of the whole Union, he has proved a most able and resolute Statesman, and worthy of the trust of our party in its darkest hour of need; and as his disinterested, self-sacrificing devotion to truth, and to the great interest of the American Republic, has rendered him an object for the attacks of the corrupt vampires of Federalism, it becomes our duty, in accordance with the spirit of the preceding resolution, to present for the consideration of the Democracy of these United States, the name of GEORGE MIFFLIN DALLAS, as a candidate for the highest office in their gift, and to suggest an immediate and thorough organization in each of the States.

Resolved, That in thus manifesting our preference for one of our distinguished fellow-citizens, we desire distinctly to disclaim any want of respect and attachment for others devoted to the great cause of Democracy, to which he has given his whole life. We know it to be in strict harmony with the feelings and principles of our adopted champion to cultivate by a sacrifice of every personal and minor consideration a cordial union in maintenance of the great popular cause of American Institutions.

Resolved, That we are in favor of adhering to the established usage of a Democratic National Convention in May, 1848, and that while we entertain the hope that our favorite fellow-citizen may receive its nomination, we will cheerfully abide any result of its proceedings, and will give our hearty support to the candidates regularly nominated by that body.

E. B. Schnabel being loudly called for made his appearance upon the stage, when he was most cordially received. His speech was well timed and to the point; he spoke with more feeling and eloquence than upon any former occasion.

He was followed by E. A. Penniman, who addressed the meeting with great power and energy; he was listened to with marked attention.

B. Champneys, Attorney General of the State, being loudly called for, responded to it in a speech of great force, beauty, and sound political principles.

Gustavus Remak, a sound German Democrat, spoke with more than his usual eloquence, and urged upon all to exert themselves to secure the nomination of our distinguished citizen.

Horn R. Kneass made a most admirable speech, and fully maintained his reputation as a speaker and a sound Democrat.

W. D. Barnes closed the speaking and was listened to with pleasure by all.

Letters were read from Adj. Gen. Geo. W. Bowman, Gen. John H. Hobart, Hon. Geo. R. McFarlane, Samuel H. Tate, Esq, Jesse W. Griffiths, Esq., and other distinguished citizens of the State, heartily approving the movement, and regretting their inability to attend the meeting.

PAT. JAN. 21, 1908





